

Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC)
Adult Issues Committee
Minutes of Meeting, March 20, 2015
DDDS Fox Run, 2nd floor training room
2540 Wrangle Hill Road, Bear, DE
And
Teleconference
302-526-5475
Conference ID 6940783#
9:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Members present at meeting location: Larry Henderson, Executive Director- Independent Resources, Inc., Self-Advocate, Committee Chair; **Debra Veenema**, MS Delaware; **HarrietAnn Litwin**, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; **Bill Monaghan**, Delaware People First; **Barbie Monaghan**, Delaware People First, **Gary Mears**, parent advocate; **Tina Fields**, Delaware People First

Guests present at meeting location: **Helen Rana**, University of Delaware; **Jing Chen**, University of Delaware

Members attending via teleconference: **Karen Gallagher**, Self-Advocate; Carol Barnett, Division of Services for Aging Adults and Persons with Physical Disabilities (DSAAPD)

Guests attending via teleconference: **Beth MacDonald**, Special Needs Alert Program (SNAP) Coordinator, Office of Preparedness; **Ginny Schwartz**, All Clear Emergency Management Group; **Joanne Huie**, All Clear Emergency Management Group; **Lorraine Janusas**, Eventful Connections; **Dr. Gary Colangelo**, Chair, Delaware Oral Health Coalition; **Patrick Gleason**, The Shriver Center, University of Massachusetts

Members Absent: **Sonal Cercena**, Self-Advocate; **Laura Strmel**, St. John's Community Services; **Bernadette DeAngelis**, Division of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDDS); **Vivian Turner**, Director- Collaborative Efforts to Reinforce Transition Success (CERTS); Alvin Emory, Self-Advocate; **Gary Mears**, Ed.D., Parent Advocate; **Debra Veenema**, Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Delaware; **Tina Fields**, Self-Advocate; **Terri Hancharick**, Parent Advocate

Staff: (via teleconference) **Kristin Cosden** Social Services Administrator –DDC

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:40 AM

II. Approval of Minutes: The February 20, 2015 meeting minutes were approved.

III. Approval of Agenda: The March 20, 2015 meeting agenda was approved as mailed.

IV. Chair's Report: Larry Henderson provided an update on the Independent Resources, Inc. (IRI) LaunchSpace Program, which has been funded by the Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) and is

nearing the end of its contract period. Larry reported that on March 12, 2015, IRI hosted their "Dolphin Tank" award ceremony and reception at their Dover location. Based on the popular television show "Shark Tank", the event featured four entrepreneurs with disabilities, who were competing for the title of Small Business Owner of the Year. Larry shared that dollars leveraged by IRI for this project more than doubled the initial grant amount. IRI was able to secure a first place prize of \$1,600, which included goods and services from small business support professionals. First place honors went to Tina Ripley, with her business Tina Ripley Imaginariums. Emmanuel Jenkins was the Runner-Up, with his non-profit organization We Stand 4 Something. Two other participants also took home plaques honoring their hard work, and certificates for goods and services to help them further their business efforts. Larry said that the event was a huge success, and that IRI is very proud of this project.

V. Staff Report: Kristin Cosden provided updates on what is happening at the DDC, including the upcoming Disability Policy Seminar in Washington, DC and the upcoming Junior Partners in Policymaking (JPIP) Program. Kristin stated that the JPIP application deadline is April 15, 2015. She asked the committee to share information regarding the program with any young adult ages 15-22 with or without a disability, who may be interested in becoming a strong self-advocate through this training program. Information on the program can be obtained from the JPIP Contractor, Jamie Wolfe, downloaded from the DDC website or by contacting the DDC office. The program can accept 20 participants, with the majority being individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. Kristin also asked the committee to share any ideas for panel discussions or the keynote address for the 2016 LIFE Conference. Barbara Monaghan suggested that the LIFE Conference Planning Committee consider holding a self-advocate panel discussion again for the 2016 LIFE Conference. Barbara also recommended two individuals as potential keynote speakers: Gary Guller, who led a group of people with disabilities in climbing Mount Everest and also the Pierce Brothers, who Barb said have a Facebook page titled "Love Your Brain". Kristin thanked everyone for their feedback and stated that she will share the information with the LIFE Conference Planning Committee. Finally, Kristin reminded everyone to make an appointment with their Legislator for Disability Day at Legislative Hall on March 25, 2015 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Kristin said that the DDC would be happy to help anyone who does not know who their legislator is to find their Senator and Representative. Karen Gallagher stated that she would unfortunately be unable to attend the event, but asked if she sent a one page document to the DDC, if they would forward it to her legislator. Kristin stated that the DDC staff will be happy to assist.

VI.

A. Committee Discussion-Path Forward on Oral Health Objective:

The committee re-read the original objective as detailed in the DDC 2012-2016 State Plan to determine their focus, and whether to partner with the Delaware Oral Health Coalition on any initiatives that they were already leading regarding educating people with disabilities, their families/caregivers, and the Delaware Legislature on the importance of adequate dental health for people with disabilities after the age of 21. Kristin stated that she has not received a list from the DOHC yet detailing all of their specific initiatives and potential partnership zones for this objective.

Following discussion, the committee determined to move forward with issuing the RFP for a public awareness campaign focused on adequate oral health for persons with disabilities after age 21, targeting people with disabilities, their parents/caregivers and the Delaware Legislature. It was noted that since the RFP will be widely publicized, anyone may bid on it. Kristin stated that she will type a draft of the RFP and send it to the committee for their review and feedback no later than March 27, 2015.

If approved at the committee's April meeting, the RFP will go before the full Council for a vote at their May 13, 2015 meeting. If the Council approves of releasing the RFP, the following timeline would apply:

- RFP 1503 will be publicized in all area newspapers for two weeks on Wednesdays and Sundays beginning with the Sunday, March 17, 2015 editions, as well as on the DDC's Facebook page, on the DDC's website and mailed to the DDC's existing contractor list and any other interested parties.
- Following publication of RFP 1503, a bidder's conference will be held on May 28 or May 29, 2015 (depending on venue availability) for interested bidders. Interested bidders may also ask questions about RFP 1503 at any time the RFP is active.
- Proposals will be due to Kristin at the DDC by June 11, 2015 at 4:30 PM.
- Committee will review proposals at their June 19, 2015 meeting and vote for the successful candidate to put before Council for a vote to approve the contractor.
- Full Council will meet on July 8, 2015, and will vote on the contractor/proposal recommended by the committee.
- If approved by Council, contractor will be notified by Kristin and the contract process will begin.
- Estimated contract start date if all of the above happens as planned: August 1, 2015

B.-"Prepare Yourself Delaware- A conference for people with disabilities and first responders"
Update from project planning team:

Project planning team members Joanne Huie, Ginny Schwartz and Lorraine Janusas led this portion of the meeting.

- Joanne reported that the conference website will be live and registration open by Monday, March 23, 2015.
- The committee requested a "one pager" document in color and grayscale to send to interested parties and to print/post.
- Registration will close on April 24, 2015.
- Early bird registration (and the discounted rate) will end on April 10, 2015.
- Registration is free for planning committee members and speakers.
- Consumer rate is \$25 (consumer is defined as someone with a disability, their parent/caregiver or a professional in the disability field)
- General attendee rate is \$75
- General attendee early bird rate is \$50

- The committee requested that Joanne send a weekly registration report to the full committee.
- The committee requested that All Clear reach out to Citizens Corp and the Delaware Fire School to seek inclusion on their listservs and to help spread the word about the conference.
- The Modern Maturity Center requires a final head count five days before the event
- Joanne reiterated that there is only room for eight exhibitor tables at the venue
- Delmarva Power was suggested as a sponsor/exhibitor
- "Take one" exhibitor opportunities will also be made available for \$70
- Exhibitors will receive lunch as part of their participation in the conference (same lunch as attendees)
- Nate Trull, afternoon General Session Speaker from the Shriver Center in Massachusetts, has his travel arrangements made
- Barb mentioned that she heard at another meeting, that an outside vendor can bring food to the MMC, which contradicts what MMC told Lorraine Janusas
- Lorraine asked Barb to share the contact info at MMC for the person who said outside vendors are acceptable
- A medical doctor is needed on the committee in order to process/allow CEUs. Beth MacDonald stated that she will check with her office on this, and follow up with the committee.
- Panelists are mostly finalized. Kristin provided a list to Joanne of individuals she is having a hard time reaching, and asked her to attempt to finalize their commitment to participate as speakers
- The committee chose the following for the conference breakfast: fresh fruit cup, assorted pastries, muffins, bagels and cream cheese (2 pieces per person), assorted juices, coffee and tea
- The committee chose the following menu for lunch: chicken breast with honey-dijon sauce (vegetarian, gluten-free and other special dietary needs will be handled individually by the contractor), salad, vegetable of the day, starch of the day and rolls
- Dessert for lunch will either be cheesecake with fruit or apple pie, with cheesecake being the first choice, but only if it is served with fruit and/or sauce.

VII. New Business:

All committee meetings in 2015 will be held on the third Friday of the month from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM at DDDS Fox Run. The address is 2540 Wrangle Hill Rd., Suite 200, Bear, Delaware. Call-in information will remain static as well. Please continue to use call in number 302-526-5475 and conference ID 6940783#

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM.

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